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Photo by John Meiu

Children's Community Support Network (CCSN), an initiative of the Michigan Supreme Court, conducted a meeting on Monday, November 29. Participating in this program to help foster children were (seated, left to right) Kathryn A. O'Grady, director of Child Welfare Services, State Court Administrative Office; Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan; and Wayne Third Judicial Circuit Court Judge Leslie Kim Smith, Family Division; along with (standing, left to right) Bob Parks, Michigan Association of United Ways director of Membership Services; Musette Michaels, Family Independence Agency; Randall J. Wilger, CCSN program director; Verlie M. Ruffin, associate director of the Michigan Federation for Children and Families: John R. Schmidt, executive director of Methodist Children's Home Society; and Michael D. Foley, assistant director of Child Welfare Services, State Court Administrative Office. CCSN seeks volunteers to help foster children of all ages, but particularly youth who will soon "age out" of the foster system and will be on their own by age 18 or 19 without a family or support network. Everyone has something they can teach a foster child, whether it's how to look for a job or even grocery shop. For more information, visit the CCSN Web site at http://www.courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/CCSN; or contact Program Director Randall Wilger at CCSN@courts.mi.gov or (517) 373-5322.